

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7972

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJ: PROSPECTIVE APPOINTMENT OF NEW GCOB HIGH COMMISSIONER
TO UNITED KINGDOM

1. IN RECENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION, RODNEY BAIN, SECRETARY TO THE CABINET, CONFIDED IN ME THAT DECISION HAD ESSENTIALLY BEEN TAKEN TO APPOINT HIM AS NEW GCOB HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON REPLACING A.R. BRAYNEN. THIS HAS BEEN RUMORED FOR SOME TIME, THOUGH HAS NOT EVEN YET BEEN FORMALLY ANNOUNCED. ACCORDING TO BAIN, IT IS NOW A MATTER OF TIMING PRIMARILY RELATED TO MR. BRAYNEN'S CONVENIENCE.

2. INTERESTING ASPECT FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW IS WHO REPLACES BAIN. IN RESPONSE TO MY SPECIFIC QUESTION, HE STATED THAT HE SERIOUSLY DOUBTED THAT IT WOULD BE HIE DEPUTY BASIL O'BRIEN. EMBASSY ASSUMPTION IS THAT IT WILL BE ONE OF THE CURRENT SENIOR PERMANENT SECRETARIES, BUT FROM WHICH MINISTRY IS AT THE MOMENT ANYONE'S GUESS. BAIN'S POSITION IS, HOWEVER, A VERY IMPORTANT ONE TO US SINCE WE ARE ABLE TO DO A LOT OF BUSINESS THROUGH HIS DIRECT ACCESS TO THE PRIMIN AND THE CABINET. WE WILL KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED.
WEISS

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